

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 JERUSA 01120 241039Z

14
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 DHA-02 ORM-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 SCCT-01 AID-05 SSM-03 /084 W
----- 102233

R 240610Z AIG 76
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8240
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMSCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JERUSALEM 1120

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PBOR, PINS, IS, JO
SUBJECT: FURTHER JEWISH PRAYER ATTEMPT IN UNRWA BUILDING IN
HEBRON

REF: JERUSALEM 1099

1. SUMMARY. EIGHT MORE JEWS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED FOR TRYING TO PRAY
IN UNRWA BUILDING IN HEBRON, AND DETENTION OF 18 HELD EARLIER
HAS BEEN EXTENDED FOR WEEK. GATHERING OF AMERICAN JEWS PLANNED
FOR KIRYAT ARBA AUG 25 IN SUPPORT OF JEWISH "RIGHTS" TO SETTLE
AND PRAY IN HEBRON. UNRWA DIRECTOR FOR WEST BANK CLAIMS BUILDING
UNDER LEASE TO UNRWA CONTINUOUSLY SINCE 1954 AND WORK BEGUN
IN 1974 TO RENOVATE IT AS MEDICAL CLINIC STOPPED BY GOI.
END SUMMARY.

2. EIGHT ADDITIONAL ARRESTS WERE MADE OF JEWS TRYING TO PRAY
IN FORMER JEWISH HOSPITAL BUILDING IN HEBRON OVER WEEKEND,
AND ON AUG 20 COURT EXTENDED FOR SEVEN MORE DAYS THE
REMAND OF 18 ARRESTED LAST WEEK (REFTEL). GUSH EMUNIM
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 JERUSA 01120 241039Z

LEADER HANAN PORAT AMONG MOST RECENT ARRESTEES. IN OBTAINING EXTENSION OF REMAND, PROSECUTION ARGUED, ACCORDING TO JERUSALEM POST, THAT SUSPECTS' ACTS ENDANGERED PUBLIC ORDER, SINCE BUILDING LOCATED IN SECTOR POPULATED EXCLUSIVELY BY ARABS. GUSH EMUNIM-LED GROUP OF ABOUT 50, INCLUDING RABBI MOSHE LEVINGER OF KIRYAT ARBA, EARLIER REPORTEDLY HELD PRAYER SESSION OUTSIDE BUILDING WHEN BARRED BY SECURITY FORCES FROM ENTERING.

3. EVIDENCE THAT JEWISH ZEALOTS PLAN TO CONTINUE EFFORTS IS ADVERTISEMENT IN AUG 23 JERUSALEM POST URGING AMERICAN JEWISH CITIZENS TO "JOIN IN A POWERFUL CALL FOR JEWISH RIGHTS IN THE JEWISH CITY OF HEBRON". SPECIFIC EVENTS CITED ARE AUG 24 EVENING SPEECH IN JERUSALEM BY RABBI MEIR KAHANE ON "HEBRON - REDEMPTION OR HUMILIATION?" AND A MEETING AT NOON AUG 25 IN KIRYAT ARBA HESHIVA. LATTER DESCRIBED AS "PEACEFUL AMERICAN JEWISH DEMAND FOR HEWISH SETTLEMENT AND RIGHTS IN HEBRON". AD EXHORTS AMERICAN JEWS "TO PROTEST THE TRAGEDY OF JEWS BEING ARRESTED BY OTHER JEWS IN HEBRON FOR SEEKING THE ELEMENTARY JEWISH RIGHT TO LIVE AND PRAY IN THE JEWISH CITY OF PATRIARCHS" AND ASSERTS, "AS JEWS, YOU ARE PART OF THIS JEWISH PROBLEM. AS AMERICAN CITIZENS YOU HAVE A PARTICULARLY POWERFUL INFLUENCE ON THE ISRAEILI GOVERNMENT". IT ASKS THAT "DONATIONS FOR THE STRUGGLE" BE SENT TO JERUSALEM P. O. BOX 15177.

4. UNRWA DIRECTOR FOR WEST BANK, DR. MOHAMMED SHARIF, REVIEWED HISTORY OF UNRWA USE OF HEBRON BUILDING FOR CONGENOFF AUG 20. HE SAID BUILDING ORIGINALLY LEASED FROM GOJ IN 1954 FOR USE AS SCHOOL. IT HAS BEEN UNDER UNRWA'S CONTROL CONTINUOUSLY SINCE THAT TIME AND NEVER BEEN ABANDONED AND USED BY LOCAL ARABS AS GOAT OR SHEEP PEN AS PRESS HAS REPORTED. SINCE BUILDING NOT ADEQUATE AS SCHOOL AND IN POOR REPAIR, UNRWA MOVED SCHOOL SEVERAL YEARS AGO AND USED BUILDING ONLY FOR STORAGE OF FURNITURE, ETC. IN 1974 UNRWA NEEDED LARGER MEDICAL CLINIC IN HEBRON AND DECIDED RENOVATE BUILDING FOR THIS PURPOSE. CONTRACT WAS LET AND WORK BEGUN, BUT MILGOVT ASKED UNRWA TO STOP WORK TEMPORARILY AS ISSUE WAS "SENSITIVE". ABOUT SAME TIME LARGE SIGN WAS ERECTED ON BUILDING, WITHOUT NOTICE TO UNRWA, IDENTIFYING BUILDING AS SITE OF FORMER JEWISH HOSPITAL.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 JERUSA 01120 241039Z

5. DR. SHARIF, IN FORMER CAPACITY AS UNRWA DIRECTRO OF MEDICAL SERVICES, HAD SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH ISRAELIS ON QUESTION IN 1974-75, BOTH TO PROTEST ERECTION OF SIGN AND TO TRY TO GET WORK RESUMED ON PREPARING BUILDING FOR USE AS CLINIC. MFA INDICATED WORK STOPPAGE ONLY TEMPORARY AND CLEARLY IMPLIED SIGN ERECTED BY KIRYAT ARBANS TO COMMEMORATE SITE AND THAT

BEST NOT TO TRY TO REMOVE IT FOR TIME BEING. MEANWHILE, UNRWA CONTINUED TO USE BUILDING AS WAREHOUSE. LATER IN 1975, AFTER SHARIF CAME TO JERUSALEM AS UNRWA'S WEST BANK DIRECTOR, HE DISCUSSED MATTER WITH THEN MILITARY GOVERNOR GEN. SHALEV. TO SHARIF'S ASTONISHMENT, SHALEV TOLD HIM THAT HE, SHALEV, HAD HAD SIGN PLACED ON BUILDING, TO AVOID TROUBLE. SHARIF AGAIN PROTESTED AND REQUESTED AGREEMENT TO RESUME RENOVATION, BUT WITHOUT SUCCESS.

6. KIRYAT ARBANS BROKE INTO BUILDING TWICE DURING WEEK OF AUG 9, AFTER WHICH LOCKS CHANGED AND KEYS PROVIDED TO MILGOV. FURNITURE HAD BEEN MOVED OUT OF BUILDING BY KIRYAT ARBANS AND SOME OF IT BROKEN. JEWISH SYMBOLS WERE PUT UP INSIDE. WHEN FURTHER BREAK-INS OCCURRED, MILGOV PLACED GUARDS AT BUILDING AND ARRESTS HAVE FOLLOWED. ARABIC PRESS REPORTS BARBED WIRE WAS PLACED AROUND BUILDING UAG 22 FOLLOWING LATEST TRESPASSING ARRESTS.
NEWLIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARRESTS, JEWS, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, RELIGIOUS GROUPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976JERUSA01120
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D760322-1226
From: JERUSALEM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760899/aaaagjcl.tel
Line Count: 137
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 JERUSALEM 1099
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <12 OCT 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 970926
Subject: FURTHER JEWISH PRAYER ATTEMPT IN UNRWA BUILDING IN HEBRON
TAGS: PBOR, PINS, IS, JO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006